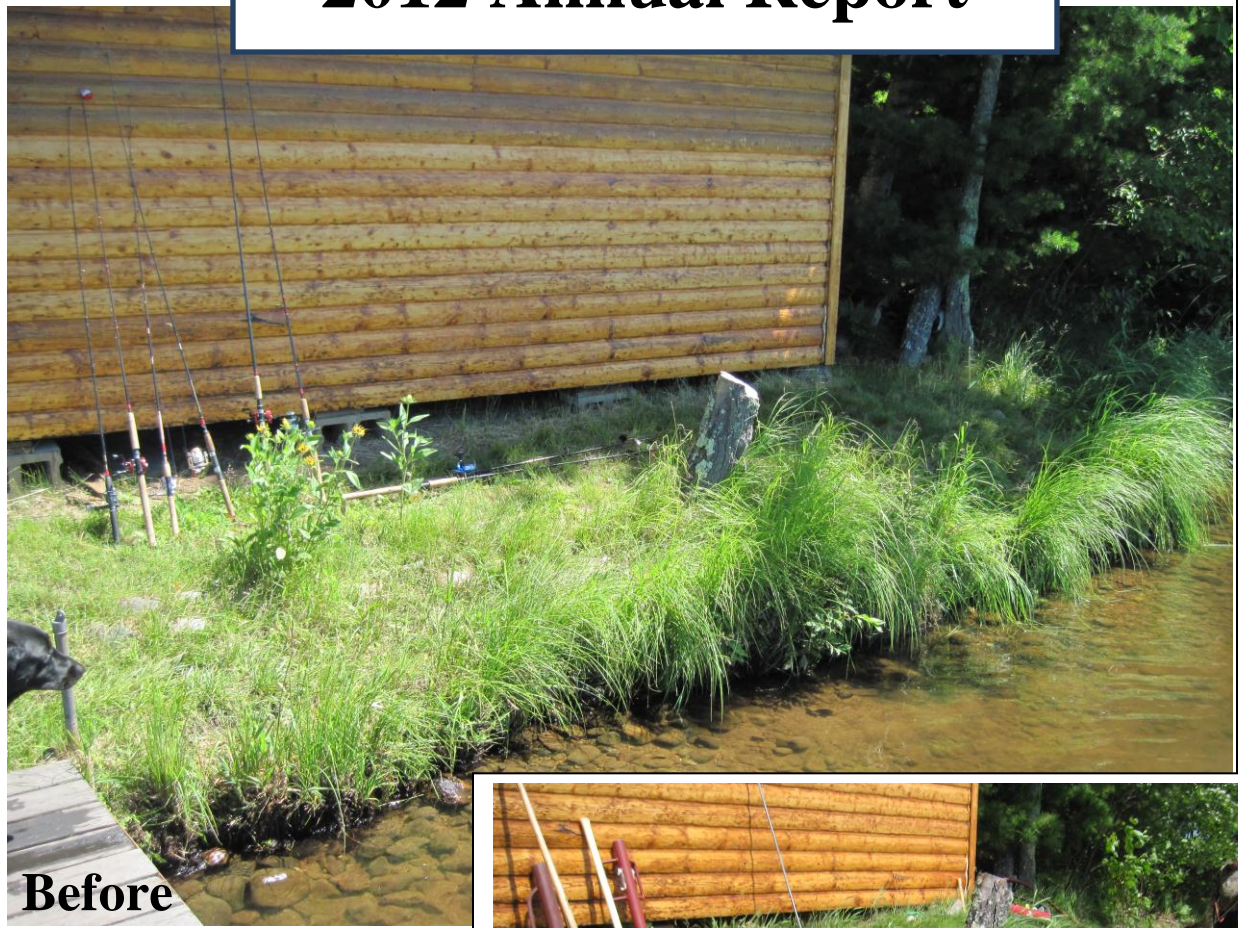


Iron County Land & Water Conservation Department

2012 Annual Report



Before

Streambank & Shoreline Protection Upper Springstead Lake

*Practice designed to reduce erosion, restore
native plants and stabilize shoreline area.*



After

*The mission of the Iron County Land Conservation Department is to protect
land and water stewardship through education, technical support and consistent program delivery.*

2012 Year in Review

Iron County Land & Water Conservation Department

Last year, the Iron County Land & Water Conservation Department was successful in generating new funding sources to provide greater amounts of financial assistance to local townships and landowners to implement conservation on the ground in Iron County. Once again, the department increased the number of technical services provided and education programs and events conducted than in any year previous. The continuous increase in deliverables and outreach has been accomplished with no increase in full-time staff, a challenge that is sure to meet its limit in time. Iron County employs one full-time County Conservationist funded through the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and a full-time Lake Specialist funded in part through DATCP and part through a Department of Natural Resources Lake Protection grant for 2012-2014. Grant funding for staff is ever challenging as these grants are competitive and often are not used to fund ongoing projects. DATCP is currently in the process of revising rules that affect funding used for cost-sharing to landowners to implement conservation on the ground and funding used to support the operation of the Land Conservation Departments. Reduction in this funding may result in severe consequences for counties in supporting staff in these departments. To date, we the department has been successful in securing funding specific to conservation programming and governmental agencies. We have capitalized on grants to expand programs and increase cost-share to local landowners to protect water quality in Iron County through projects, including replacing road culverts on trout streams in the Lake Superior Basin, AIS monitoring, control and education, employing summer interns at the Turtle Flambeau Flowage boat landings and Saxon Harbor, and more.

Heather Palmquist, Lake Specialist, continued to be a crucial asset to the department as she shifted out of primarily an Aquatic Invasive Species focus in the past to a 50% AIS focus and 50% lake coordination focus. She managed the Native Plant Sale, supervised three Limited-Term staff, assisted with conservation practices, directed the county-wide invasive species program, treated invasive plant infestations throughout the county, provided education outreach to Iron County schools and lake groups, and more.

The LWCD continues to provide technical and cost share assistance for a variety of non-point pollution and water quality concerns. The department implemented \$21,950 from DATCP to assist private landowners with Cost-Share Funding and an additional \$32,300 to municipalities to reimburse for culvert replacement on Lake Superior trout streams. Overall, the department provided an increase in the number of installed conservation projects, education programs, and technical assistance.

Land & Water Conservation Committees and Departments have become very active in working to meet the challenges faced by declines in available funding. We will continue to seek out new strategies to meet the budget challenges. The Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association continues to advocate for DATCP to continue its responsibility to fund the state Soil & Water Resource Management Program and Land Conservation Department Staff.

The Iron County Land and Water Conservation Department appreciates the local, regional, and state support for conservation efforts within the county and across the state. We appreciate the commitment and hard work from our local County and Town Boards, lake associations, landowners, students, and concerned citizens and we will continue to be an active partner to continue implementing conservation in the county. The future of our pristine water resources depends on our strength and commitment.

Sincerely dedicated to conservation,

MaryJo Gingras

Iron County Land & Water Conservation

The mission of the Iron County Land & Water Conservation Department is to provide leadership and promote sound land and water stewardship through education, technical support and consistent program delivery.

<u>LCC Committee</u>		<u>LCC Staff & Support</u>	
Gerald Luke	Chairman	MaryJo Gingras	Conservationist
William Thomas	Vice-Chairman	Heather Palmquist	Aquatic Invasive Coordinator
Larry Youngs		David Schultz	Wildlife Damage
Steven Smith		<u>Natural Resource Conservation Service</u>	
Vernon Moore*	FSA Representative	Gary Haughn	District Conservationist
Dale Wehmas*		Paul Johnson	Civil Engineering Tech.
Tom Popko*			

* Denotes Non-County Board Member

Land Conservation Committees were created under Chapter 92.06(1)(a), Wis. Stats. and have local responsibility for natural resource issues related to erosion control, sedimentation and nonpoint source pollution, and other duties as directed by the county board.

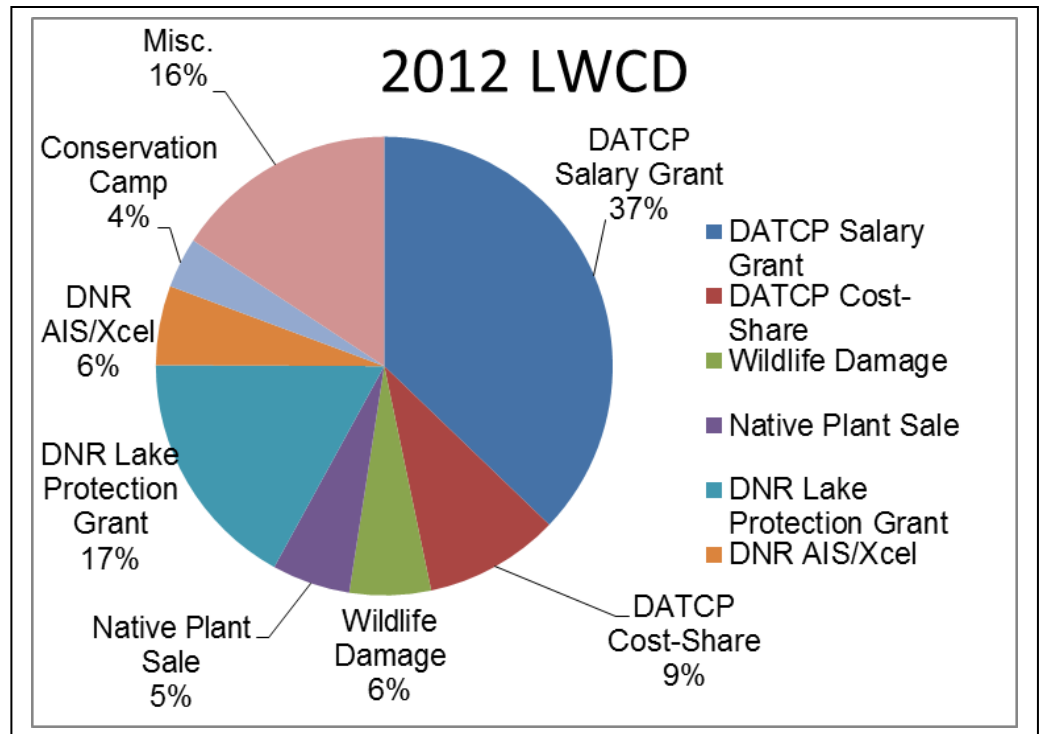
Administrative Activities

- Administered **\$85,373** in DATCP staff and support funding for the department in 2012.
- Administered **\$32,292** in Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant for fisheries protection.
- Administered **\$23,171** WDNR Lake Protection grant for the Aquatic Invasive Species Program.
- Administered **\$41,950** of DATCP conservation project cost share funding.
- Administered **\$8,793** in funds for the Wildlife Damage Program.
- Coordinated the Native plant sale including **\$13,227** in sales.
- Provided **\$3,000** scholarships and awards to 2 Iron County students.
- Developed & administered the department's 2012 budget.
- Filed all state and federal reimbursement requests and grant reports.
- Served as NW Representative on the WI Land & Water Conservation Association Board.
- Served as chair of the WLWCA Professional Improvement Committee.
- Attended the WLWCAALCE annual professional development conference.
- Served as chair of the NW Lakes Conference.
- Attended County Conservationist meetings.
- Provide conservation technical planning for 3 townships on 8 different conservation projects, 3 private landowners, and the 4 technical project recommendations for the IC Forestry Dept.
- Conduct monthly water quality monitoring on Potato River in Upson.
- Attended NCWMA meetings.
- Supervised 1 Full-time staff and 4 summer interns.

Budget Summary *(includes actual expenses & approximate revenues)*

Fiscal Report

In 2012, DATCP allocated \$85,373 for staff & support and \$41,950 for Cost-Share projects. These funds accounted for 62% of total revenue captured. In addition, the department secured many additional grants to implement our program to its full potential. The table below illustrates Iron County's funding sources during the years 2008-2012.



	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
DATCP Salary Grant	\$85,373	\$96,945	\$85,000	\$91,415	\$85,000
DATCP Cost-Share	\$21,950	\$48,524	\$38,701	\$37,749	\$20,000
Wildlife Damage	\$13,227	\$8,793	\$5,900	\$6,777	\$6,382
Native Plant Sale	\$12,745	\$9,860	\$10,295	\$14,180	\$1,983
Nutrient Management	---	---	---	---	\$36,398
2012 Camp/ Rain Barrel	\$8,187	\$6,655	\$5,336	---	---
WLWCA Intern Grant	---	---	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
U.S. Fish & Wildlife	---	---	\$15,393	\$4,000	\$2,500
DNR AIS Grant & Xcel	\$12,870	\$62,472	\$57,128	\$46,687	---
DNR Lake Protection/Misc.	\$75,444	\$107,782	\$23,855	\$36,598	\$1,050
TOTAL Revenue:	\$229,796	\$341,031	\$243,608	\$235,406	\$155,313
Program Management:	\$264,967	\$339,921	\$235,283	\$228,578	\$175,697
Difference	\$35,171	\$1,110	+ \$8,325	+ \$6,828	\$20,384
Additional Grants paid directly to owners			\$15,393	\$12,520	

Land & Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan

Chapter 92 of the Wisconsin Statutes grants authority to Land Conservation Committees (LCC) to set policy for local soil & water resource management. Their policies are administered through the LWCD.

Iron County adopted its first Land & Water Resource Management Plan in 1999. The plan provides County government the flexibility and funding to address statewide goals as well as locally identified priorities. The plan was revised in 2004 and again in 2009. Goals were revised, including a new goal for invasive species management. Revisions are required to remain eligible for funding. The plan was approved by the Iron County Board on January 26, 2010 and by the Wisconsin Land & Water Board on February 2, 2010.

Implementation of the plan is driven by the annual workplan, which includes goals, and activities identified by the LCC and the public.

Partnerships with local producers and combined funding opportunities with NRCS have promoted farmers to address barnyard and manure management concerns. Agricultural practices, streambank stabilization, riparian habitat restoration, and technical assistance to Towns continue drive the conservation practice workload of the department. In 2012, we fielded more than 45 site visits and numerous responses to technical requests.

The LCD works cooperatively with agencies and county departments as opportunities arise including the Forestry, Highway, and Zoning Departments. The department is committed to a strong partnership with youth and adults through the County Lakes Alliance & lake groups, Hurley & Mercer Schools, North Lakeland Discovery Center, and more.

The table below summarizes the projects funded in 2011 through the Cost-Share Program and a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant.

Completed LWRM Cost Share Projects – 2012 (pictures start on page 5)						
Project Type	Name	Total Cost	DATCP CS \$	Other \$	Source	Landowner
Livestock Fencing	Clement	\$15,105.99	\$10,574.19	NA	NA	\$4,531.80
Shore Stabilization	Mattes	\$4,665.38	\$3,265.77	NA	NA	\$1,399.61
Riparain Buffers	Zumpf	\$7,134.20	\$4,993.94	NA	NA	\$2,140.26
Streambank Stabilization	Wolf	\$3,427.11	\$2,336.15	NA	NA	\$1,090.96
Critical Area Stabilization	Jirous	\$1,114.22	\$779.95	NA	NA	\$334.27
Fish Passage/Culve	Town Anderson	\$6,961.18	\$ 0	\$6,961.18	GLRI grant	\$ 0
Fish Passage-Turntable Crk Bridg	IC Forestry	\$15,502.11	\$ 0	\$15,502.11	GLRI grant	\$ 0
Fish Passage Weber Lake Bridge	IC Forestry	\$9,828.75	\$ 0	\$9,828.75	GLRI grant	\$ 0
Project canceled/ Funds transfered			\$20,000			
TOTAL:		\$63,738.94	\$41,950	\$32,292.04		\$9,496.90

2012 DATCP Funded Conservation Practices



Livestock Fencing Jim Clement Farm

DATCP CS:	\$10,574.19
Landowner:	\$ 4,531.80
Total:	\$15,105.99

Streambank/Shore Stabilization Upper Springstead Lake Mattes Project *(Cover photo)



DATCP CS:	\$3,265.77
Landowner:	\$1,399.61
Total:	\$4,665.38



Riparian Buffers Turtle Flambeau Flowage Zumpf Project

DATCP CS:	\$4,993.94
Landowner:	\$2,140.26
Total:	\$7,134.20

2012 DATCP Funded Conservation Practices

Streambank/ Shore Stabilization Turtle Flambeau Flowage Wolf Project

DATCP CS:	\$2,336.15
<u>Landowner:</u>	<u>\$1,090.96</u>
Total:	\$3,427.11



Critical Area Stabilization Turtle Flambeau Flowage Jirous Project

Great Lakes Restoration	
Grant:	\$ 779.95
<u>Landowner:</u>	<u>\$ 334.27</u>
Total:	\$1,114.22



2012 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant (GLRI) Conservation Practices



**Fish Passage/Culvert Removal
Mud Creek
Town of Anderson**



GLRI Grant:	\$ 6,961.18
<u>Landowner:</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Total:	\$ 6,961.18



**Fish Passage/Culvert Removal
Turntable Creek #2
IC Forestry Department**

GLRI Grant:	\$15,502.11
<u>Landowner:</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Total:	\$15,502.11

**Streambank Stabilization
Weber Lake Culvert
Iron County Forestry**

GLRI Grant:	\$ 9,828.75
<u>Landowner:</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Total:	\$ 9,828.75



Land & Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan (Cont.)

Promoting land and water conservation outreach is the number one priority of Iron County's LWCD. The department dedicates vast amounts of time, energy, and funding to promote stewardship and resource protection to students, farmers, municipalities, elected officials, landowners, and the general public. This is the only department in the county that fills the niche.

Iron County participates in the state and regional Conservation Poster & Speaking Contest sponsored through the WI Land & Water Conservation Association. The 2012 theme was "Soil to Spoon." There were 35 participants from Hurley 8th grade and they designed their posters to illustrate the many connections between the foods people eat and the land it comes from. The award winning poster, designed by Guyle Burgess, won \$25 from our Department and went on to the Regional Competition. In the speaking contest, there were 8 participants from the Mercer School and the winning speech was presented by Kendra Tutt. She won \$25 from our Department and went on to the Regional Competition. Unfortunately none of the posters or speakers went on to the state competition.



Hurley students place at the Northwest Land Conservation Speaking Contest.



Hurley students at the 2012 Wisconsin Envirothon competition.

Iron County has participated in the Wisconsin Envirothon competition since 2004. Envirothon is a high school environmental science challenge. Teams of five high school students compete in college-level field exams in aquatic ecology, forestry, soils, and wildlife. In addition, students create team presentations regarding an annually rotating current issue. The 2012 issue involved using Best Management Practices to control erosion and protect water quality to design a resort on an island in Green Bay. Six students from Hurley School competed in the Wisconsin Envirothon competition on April 20, 2012 and placed 5th out of 14 schools.

In addition, the department also continued the annual Nutrient Management Plan update workshop with local producers, organized a Rain Barrel distribution of more than 150 barrels, and provided numerous education presentations for local groups.

Land & Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan (Cont.)

Wisconsin Conservation Camp

In 2012 the Iron County and Vilas County Land & Water Conservation Departments jointly took over hosting the Wisconsin Conservation Camp for high school students. The camp was previously hosted by Paula Carow from Rusk County Land Conservation Department for 32 years. This past year, the Conservation Camp had 22 attendees from Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota. The camp was held at Trees For Tomorrow from June 12-15, 2012 in Eagle River, Wisconsin. Camp programs focused on Trout Stream Restoration, Geocaching, Canoeing Basics, Skins & skulls, Wolves, Tree identification and Forstery, a Bog Program, and more.



In addition, students participated in a Real World Conservation program to expose them to brain storming conservation management decisions. The students were divided into 4 groups and posed with a real-life conservation management question. They worked as a group to brainstorm planning decisions and then presented back to the greater group on the last day of camp. It was an excellent activity to wrap up the week of conservation education.

Misc. Education Activities

1. Miscellaneous programs (2); 68 attendees
2. **\$3,000** in scholarship awards to students
3. Woods & Water (6); 81 students
4. School programs (26); 342 students
5. County Board presentation attendees
6. Lake Association talks (3); 31
7. Camp programs (6); 225 kids
8. AIS education programs; 383 attendees
9. Hurley field day; 55 students
10. Conservation poster contest; 35 students
11. Conservation speaking contest; 8 students
12. Loon Days; 85 attendees.

Total I & E Outreach:

Field days, workshops, education booths:	15
Education programs taught:	57
# Student & adult program attendees:	963
Handouts, publications, pamphlets:	200
Native Plant Sale brochures distributed:	950

Lake Protection Grant

In fall of 2011, Iron County LWCD was awarded a Lake Protection Grant from the WDNR to provide education, outreach and assistance to lake groups and property owners in an effort to promote healthy shorelands in Iron County. A Lake Specialist was hired in 2012 to assist with shoreland mitigation and Iron County's future shoreland ordinance rewrite.

A grant deliverable in this grant is to conduct two large scale shoreland habitat restorations to serve as demonstration sites for the public. In 2012, the first of the demonstrations was completed on the Turtle Flambeau Flowage at Birch Point Condo Association. Six shoreland properties were restored spanning 450 linear feet of shoreline for a total restored area of 9,525 square feet.

Education Accomplishments

- Water quality education to Girl Scout Troop – 5 participants
- Presented to Iron County Lakes Alliance Members at meetings (3) – 70 participants
- Organized Iron County's Conservation Speaking Contest & helped students (5) – 7 contestants
- Rice Lake Association Presentation on aquatic plants – 25 participants
- Provided water quality program for Iron County Youth Camp (4) – 80 campers
- Provided water quality program for Camp Thunderhead (3) – 66 campers



Shoreland Restoration at Birch Point

Technical Assistance

- Restored 450ft of linear shoreline for a total area of 9,525 square feet of restored shoreland
- Conducted site visit to Carow Park in Mercer
- Assisted on mitigation site on Weber Lake, providing landowner with recommendations
- Developed a database to track all LWCD practices including shoreland restorations, mitigations, farmland and culvert projects

Turtle Flambeau Flowage AIS Grant

Aquatic Invasive Species

Iron County's AIS program is strong and successful and now in its fourth year. We funded three summer interns, one through GLRI funds for the northern half of the county, and 2 LTE positions were funded for the Turtle Flambeau Flowage and Trude Lake through DNR and Xcel. The LTEs educated boaters about inspecting their equipment to prevent the spread of AIS.

In addition to boater education, the LTE staff monitored the Turtle Flambeau Flowage, Trude Lake and Wilson Lake for aquatic invasive species.

Education Accomplishments

- Water chemistry training (2) - 1 new lake – 50 participants
- Woods & Waters AIS monitoring (5) lakes – 34 students
- Posted AIS signs at landings - 5 signs
- AIS programs with Mercer 7th grade science class (7) – 11 students
- Ice fishing outreach with Mercer 7th grade science class at tournaments (2) – 150 contacts
- Clean Boats Clean Waters Outreach with Girl Scout Troop (4) – 50 boaters
- Coordinated Lake Stewardship Workshops (3) - 15 participants
- Project RED (Riverine Early Detection) Training (1) – 3 participants
- Garden Club Presentation on Water Gardening (1) – 20 participants
- Presented AIS Strategic Plan to County Board for approval – 20 participants



Aquatic Plant survey conducted on Weber Lake

Technical Assistance / Management/ Monitoring

- Conducted 1,230 boat inspections, contacting 2,369 recreationists
- AIS lake monitoring conducted on 5 lakes & 2 rivers
- Assisted WDNR w/ treatment of Japanese knotweed, Purple loosestrife, & Spotted knapweed
- Monitored and treated 5 sites of Giant hogweed in Hurley area
- Organized a hand-pull with Hurley Students and partners in Hurley to treat Garlic mustard – 55 participants – over 300 lbs of Garlic mustard pulled
- Conducted point-intercept of Weber Lake documenting invasive and native plant populations
- Conducted point-intercept of Gile Flowage documenting native plant populations
- Gile Flowage Spiny Water Flea sampling; 24 weeks w/ Center For Limnology-Trout Lake
- AIS grant projects for Gile Flowage and Long Lake
- Conducted monthly water quality testing on Turtle Flambeau Flowage (4)
- Maintained partnerships with WDNR, GLIFWC, USFS and National Park Service

Woods & Waters Project



Since 1999, Hurley and Mercer students have gained first-hand experience in conducting field research through studying the link between Iron County forest types, soils, wildlife, and water quality through the Woods & Waters Project. This unique program draws students into the field to study water quality and loons during summer and to track pine martin in the fall/winter.

In 2007, the Woods component changed its focus from previously studying the American Fisher to the Pine Martin. Little is known about the Pine Martin in Wisconsin and Iron County happens to have one of the only reproducing populations in the state. Students in this project study their forest home range structure, behavior, and reproduction.

Eighteen pine martins have been captured and collared since 2007. Mercer area DNR staff oversaw the chemical immobilization, fitting of a radio collar, body measurements, and release of the animal back into the forest. During the winter, radio telemetry equipment was used by students to track and record movements.

The Waters component of this unique program includes placing loon platforms on five lakes throughout the county. The platforms are



Mercer & Hurley Students and Joe Varius, Iron County Forestry, with a captured martin.



Mercer students conduct pH water quality sampling on Fox Lake.

monitored by students through the summer to

record success of nesting. The program has increased successful reproduction by more than 50%. In addition, the students learn about the impacts of water quality and shoreland development on loon reproduction. The research and data has been amazing for these students to be part of.

Both schools analyzed their data and created a presentation that they presented at the Annual High School Radio Telemetry Conference.



Native Plant Sale



The 2012 Native Plant Sale was a cooperative effort through both the Iron and Ashland Counties Land & Water Conservation Departments. Since the program began in 1993, more than a quarter million trees and shrubs have been sold. This sale provides an opportunity for landowners to purchase small quantities of native seedlings, grasses, and wildflowers at a low cost. All of the plants in the sale are native to northern Wisconsin!

There are a number of environmental and social values in promoting native species. Many of these plants are raised locally and collected from native seed in this region. This supports local nurseries and ensures greater survival because the plants are adapted to northern Wisconsin's climate. Once established, they require less maintenance because they do not need water, fertilizer, or pesticides.

Multiple layers of native plants (groundcovers, shrubs, and trees) provide the essential food, shelter, and space for a diversity of wildlife. These plants have broad and often deep roots, thus reducing soil erosion and promoting water percolation into the soil. As water percolates down into the ground nutrients are absorbed that would otherwise runoff into nearby lakes or streams.

Benefits and uses of these seedlings include: wildlife value, timber, windbreaks, shoreland habitat restoration, and more.

Proceeds from the Native Plant Sale funded scholarships for high school students.

2011 Native Plant Sale:

- ❖ 11,000 trees
- ❖ 1,700 shrubs
- ❖ 2,550 grasses/wildflowers

-
- ❖ **15,250** Total Plants Distributed
 - ❖ Total profit \$ 1,730
 - ❖ Awarded **\$3,000** in scholarships for a Hurley and a Mercer student to attend the Crex Meadows Youth Conservation Camp

2012 Native Plant Sale:

- ❖ 9,100 trees
- ❖ 2,600 shrubs
- ❖ 3,966 grasses/wildflowers

-
- ❖ **15,666** Total Plants Distributed
 - ❖ Total profit \$ 1,007.38
 - ❖ Awarded **\$3,000** in scholarships to Hurley and Mercer student for Crex Meadows Youth Conservation Camp

Nutrient Management

During the fall of 2006-2007, the former Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, and Iron Counties Land & Water Conservation Department (ABDI-LCD) began to educate farmers and other landowners about NR 151: Agricultural Standards and Prohibitions. It was a great strategy because all four counties had decided to use education, rather than enforcement, to gain compliance with NR 151.

Iron County cooperates with Ashland and Bayfield Counties to encourage local farmers to attend an annual presentation hosted by the University of WI-Extension Agricultural Resource Agent titled "*NR 151 Agricultural Performance Standards and Prohibitions.*" In addition, Iron County holds an annual Nutrient Management Plan update class to assist local farmers in updating their Plans. There are seven producers in the county that require a Nutrient Management Plan and six of them completed their plans in 2008. Approximately 1,200 are enrolled in nutrient management plans. Another education program will begin in the spring of 2012 for additional farmers interested in the program.

Wildlife Damage Abatement Program

The Wildlife Damage Abatement & Claims Program (WDACP) was created by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1983 and has been implemented in Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas and Iron Counties since 1987. Iron County's program is administered out of the Ashland County LWCD office.

The emphasis of the WDACP is on abatement (alleviation) of damage from deer, bear, turkey and geese through techniques such as: modification of agricultural practices, fencing, live trapping and relocation of bear, repellents, scare devices and wildlife population control through managed hunting. In the 4-county area, there are a variety of commercial crops being damaged by wildlife including corn, sunflowers, soybeans, buckwheat, forage, apples, cherries, plums, strawberries, blueberries; carrots, beets, beans and other garden vegetables, cut flowers, honey and livestock.

ABATEMENT: The wildlife damage program responds to dozens of program inquiries and damage complaints annually. For those people that meet program eligibility requirements, some choose to enroll and implement abatement measures when damage is first reported.

CLAIMS: Dave Schultz, the WDACP Specialist manages the claims program for Iron County. Program participants must call for damage appraisals at least 10 days prior to harvest to remain eligible for damage reimbursements. They must comply with program requirements and have properly implemented the recommended abatement measures to have their claims approved by the Land Conservation Committees and the WDNR. Iron County had one program participant in 2012. On Kretzschmar Farms, 19 bear were killed under permits and an additional 23 bear were trapped and relocated. The farm was also appraised for corn damage on 418 acres. A total of 915 bushels of corn was lost to damage on his farm in 2012.

List of Acronyms

BMP	Best Management Practice
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
CSA	Cost Share Agreement
DATCP	Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
FPP	Farmland Preservation Plan
FSA	Farm Service Agency
GIS	Geographical Information System
GLIFWC	Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Service
I&E	Information & Education
LCC	Land Conservation Committee
LWCB	Land & Water Conservation Board
LWCD	Land & Water Conservation Department
LWRM	Land & Water Resource Management
NCWMA	Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NWLC	Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference
NWLWCA	Northwest Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association
RC&D	Resource Conservation & Development
USFWS	United States Fish & Wildlife Service
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
UWEX	University of Wisconsin Extension
WDACP	Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program
WDNR	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
WLWCA	Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association



"It's time for McVitt to leave.
He's learned all the acronyms we use."



"OH, IT'S AN ACRONYM FOR 'IT DOESN'T STAND FOR ANYTHING.'"

Cooperating Agencies

This Department extends an appreciative Thank You for your contributions in our outstanding accomplishments and success in soil & water conservation.

Federal

United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)

- Ted Koehler, Wildlife Biologist

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)

- Carl Beckman, 4-County Executive Director
- Diane Jackson, FSA Loan Coordinator

USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

- Gary Haughn, District Conservationist
- Paul Johnson, Civil Engineering Technician

State

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

- Kathy Pielsticker, Director
- Dennis Presser, County Liaison
- Stacy Dehne, Engineer

University of Wisconsin Extension Service (UWEX)

- Will Andresen, Community Resource Agent
- Neil Klemme, 4-H Youth Development Coordinator

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

- Heather Berklund, Forester
- Alyssa Core, Water Management Specialist

County

Iron County Board & Board Chairman

Iron County Forestry Department

- Joe Vairus, County Forestry Administrator

Iron County Zoning Department

- Tom Bergman, Zoning Administrator

Ashland County Land Conservation Department

- Tom Fratt, County Conservationist

Bayfield County Land Conservation Department

- Ben Dufford, County Conservationist